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On the 8th instant the first detachment of the signal corps was discharged after the completion of their term of detention, as were also the 37 stevedores who arrived from Havana on the *Canby*.

On the 9th instant another detachment of the signal corps, consisting of 2 officers, 28 men, and 1 civilian employee arrived on the *Olivette*, and were put in the northern inclosure of the reservation, from which the first lot had been discharged. As in all previous cases their baggage had been disinfected in Havana and the men were in splendid physical condition.

No men arrived by the last Plant steamship, and there are only remaining in camp the 2 officers and 29 men who arrived on the 9th instant. These men will be discharged to-morrow, the 13th instant, which will leave the camp without inmates other than employees. No sickness of any kind has developed among the men, and their physical condition is exceptional.

I have done everything in my power to keep the camp in good sanitary condition, and have been ably seconded in this by all the officers of signal corps, who have in every instance seemed very desirous of complying with every suggestion which might add to the comfort of their men and the sanitary condition of the camp.

The weather is clear and dry, but very warm, and lack of shade of any kind on the reservation causes some discomfort among the inmates.

Respectfully, yours,

G. M. CORPUT,

*Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.*

The SUPERVISING SURGEON-GENERAL.

*U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.*

[Reports to the Supervising Surgeon-General United States Marine-Hospital Service.]

*Cerebro-spinal meningitis—Abstract of replies received to circular requesting information.*

[Continued from last PUBLIC HEALTH REPORTS.]

IOWA — *Dubuque*.—A fatal case of cerebro-spinal meningitis was reported May 12.

RHODE ISLAND — *Providence*.—Since October, 1898, 11 cases of cerebro-spinal meningitis have been reported to the secretary of the board of health as follows: Cranston, 1; East Providence, 1; Hopkinton, 1; Lincoln, 1; Newport, 1; Pawtucket, 2; Warren, 1; and Woonsocket, 2. No investigations have been made as to the pathology and etiology of the disease.

*Smallpox in the United States.*

#### VACCINATION OF CREWS OF VESSELS.

The following instructions have been sent to the Marine-Hospital officers stationed on the Great Lakes and on the Atlantic Seaboard. Similar instructions were sent to officers on the Ohio and Mississippi rivers in January :

MARINE-HOSPITAL SERVICE,  
OFFICE OF THE SUPERVISING SURGEON-GENERAL,  
*Washington, D. C., May 4, 1899.*

SIR: In view of the prevalence of smallpox in certain ports, it is deemed wise to have the crews of vessels vaccinated so far as prac-

ticable. You are directed to make requisition for a sufficient supply of vaccine virus to vaccinate the crews of vessels at your port. While the vaccination can not be made compulsory, you will use every endeavor to persuade the officers and crews to submit to vaccination, either at the marine-hospital office or on board the vessel, as may be most convenient. Make a weekly report, giving the total number of vaccinations during the week. Give the names of vessels visited for this purpose and the number of the crew on each.

Respectfully, yours,  
WALTER WYMAN,  
*Supervising Surgeon-General U. S. M. H. S.*

ALABAMA.

*Mobile.*—Surgeon Murray reports, May 12, 2 new cases admitted to the pesthouse on the 5th and 8th instant, respectively.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

*Washington.*—Health Officer Woodward reports, May 12, 1 new case; on hand, 18 cases; 1 suspicious case under observation.

GEORGIA.

*Savannah.*—Assistant Surgeon Fricks reports, May 9, 4 cases since last report, April 17.

ILLINOIS.

*Chicago.*—Surgeon Sawtelle reports, May 9, 2 new cases in that city.

KANSAS.

*Kansas City.*—Health Officer Clark reports through Secretary Gill, of the State board of health, 32 cases and 8 deaths for the week ended May 6.

Secretary Gill reports, May 12, 1 case in Lenora, Norton County.

LOUISIANA.

*New Orleans.*—Secretary of State board of health reports, for the week ended May 6, 3 new cases, and 12 cases on hand at close of week.

*Shreveport.*—Acting Assistant Surgeon Booth reports, May 8, 1 case, making a total of 3 since the first case was noted, on April 18.

MASSACHUSETTS.

*Boston.*—Surgeon Irwin reports no new cases from May 3 to May 12.

MINNESOTA.

*St. Paul.*—Secretary of the State board of health reports, May 10, 1 case.

MISSOURI.

*St. Louis.*—Passed Assistant Surgeon Stimpson reports, May 12, that there have been 65 cases in that city since January 21, 1899.

## NEW MEXICO.

*Las Cruces.*—In view of smallpox having been reported epidemic in Las Cruces by Sanitary Inspector Alexander, of El Paso, the following telegram was addressed to the health officer of that town:

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 12, 1899.

*Health officer, Las Cruces, N. Mex.:*

Please wire full information concerning reported prevalence of smallpox in Las Cruces. Give number of cases and measures taken to prevent spread.

W. WYMAN,  
*Supervising Surgeon-General U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.*

The following reply was received:

LAS CRUCES, N. MEX., May 12, 1899.

*Surgeon-General U. S. Marine-Hospital Service:*

Smallpox epidemic rapidly decreasing; no new cases in a week. Present number, 19—largely occurring in vaccinated children. Vaccination not compulsory. No town corporation in Las Cruces. House quarantine, but unable to carry it out strictly. Insufficient means.

J. F. McCONNELL,  
*Medical Health Officer.*

## PENNSYLVANIA.

*Smallpox on Neville Island.*

A letter having been received from Dr. Benjamin Lee, secretary of the State board of health of Pennsylvania, stating that smallpox existed among Government laborers on Neville Island, in the Ohio River, a short distance below Pittsburg, Surg. C. T. Peckham was ordered to visit that island and report on the situation there. He reports as follows:

PITTSBURG, PA., May 12, 1899.

SIR: In accordance with instructions contained in Bureau telegram of the 8th instant, directing me to visit Neville Island and investigate smallpox among Government employees, I have the honor to state that I visited the island yesterday. The island is about 9 miles long and would average 1 mile in width. It is not thickly populated, being mostly inhabited by market gardeners. Their dwellings are from one-fourth to one-half a mile apart. At the lower end of the island the Government is building a lock. Before the first case of smallpox occurred 200 laborers were employed. Yesterday was pay day, and the paymaster had 125 men on his pay roll. All had been vaccinated except 18; these I vaccinated. There were 5 cases of smallpox. There were in the same building with the smallpox cases 25 workmen who had been exposed and 2 children and 2 nurses. The company had just completed a comfortable building to be used as a pesthouse. The smallpox cases were to be sent to it last night. It is from three to five hundred yards from any inhabited building. The suspicious cases were to be in quarantine fourteen days from the last exposure. Guards were stationed to keep any and every one from approaching the barracks where the smallpox cases were. The first case was that of a negro laborer who came from McKees Rocks, about 10 miles distant, to work. The cases now seem to be under control. The company doing the work has a physician who lives near, and who treats all of their cases of sickness, even the smallpox patients. His house is about 1 mile from the company's buildings.

Respectfully, yours,

C. T. PECKHAM,  
*Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.*

## RHODE ISLAND.

*Providence.*—Acting Assistant Surgeon Brown reports, May 10, 1 case in the person of a seaman.

## TEXAS.

*Eagle Pass.*—Acting Assistant Surgeon Hume reports, May 11, as follows:

I have the honor to report that I took a trip to Del Rio, Tex., on May 1, said trip being taken under orders of Collector Drake, for the pur-